

F/KH 440

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Inferior Construction of SOLDEK Class Vessels	DATE DISTR.	11 August 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. In Polish Merchant Marine circles it is believed that the first ships which were launched after the war, in particular those of the SOLDEK class, were subjected to well disguised acts of sabotage by the [redacted]. This class of ship has suffered a complete set-back, the units constantly having to undergo repairs and reconditioning. As a result their turnover is below that foreseen.¹

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2. The construction of these ships was carried out under the supervision of a Lloyds' inspector in Gdansk (Danzig) who invariably approved all the plans, as well as their execution, without reporting a single defect or error. [redacted] the Lloyds' inspector must have been aware at least of some of the faults committed and wittingly did not report them. In consequence, he has been instrumental during three years in slowing down output in the United Shipyards at Gdansk.

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1. [redacted] Comment. This report confirms [redacted] the inferiority of the SOLDEK-class vessels. It is believed that the major fault was the engine used for these vessels; it was manufactured and assembled in Katowice.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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